



November 4, 2022

Green Mountain Care Board  
144 State St.  
Montpelier, VT 05602

Dear Green Mountain Care Board:

I am writing to offer Brattleboro Memorial Hospital's (BMH) enthusiastic support for OneCare Vermont's FY 2023 budget proposal.

As our state emerges from the immense challenges posed by the coronavirus pandemic, I can say without reservation that the population health initiatives supported by OneCare Vermont have been and will continue to be crucial in BMH's ongoing efforts to reduce healthcare costs, improve quality of care, realize better patient outcomes, and enhance coordination between providers.

The communities served by our hospital benefit immensely from OneCare's investments in innovation, community-based services, and population health. Here are a few examples:

- The timely and accurate data provided by OneCare Vermont has been instrumental in advancing BMH's quality improvement initiatives, which to-date are making an impact in key areas such as patient safety, quality of care, patient experience, and employee satisfaction.
- BMH's highly-regarded Community Health Team remains operational, thus ensuring the continued flow of \$1.5 million in Blueprint for Health dollars that would otherwise be lost.
- We are delighted that OneCare has developed a disparities scorecard to help ensure health equity.
- OneCare payments continue to allow BMH to embed a full-time RN in each of our primary care practices to oversee care coordination.
- The Skilled Nursing Facility Medicare Waiver with OneCare (now expanded to Emergency Department discharges and primary care providers) means BMH inpatients can be discharged and directly admitted to a skilled nursing facility without the otherwise required three day wait. This saves a considerable amount of money in shortened hospital stays while ensuring that patients receive the right level of care at the right time.

The success of these initiatives demonstrate OneCare Vermont's vital and positive role in our state's healthcare reform journey. And in addition to helping BMH reduce its administrative costs, OneCare's 2023 budget proposal includes a decrease in their own operating budget by 1.6 percent, which is admirable. I support OneCare Vermont's budget proposal for FY 23, and urge you to do the same.

Sincerely,

Christopher J. Dougherty  
BMH President & Chief Executive Officer